IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Added text is underlined and deleted text is either struck through or shown in double enclosing brackets. Applicants aver that no new matter has been added.

1.-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon executable instructions for causing a computer to perform a utility program for selecting images for a markup language document comprising:

determining a number of images to display in the markup language document;

obtaining a set of random numbers, the set of random numbers containing a plurality of random numbers, a number of the plurality of random numbers being equal to the determined number of images;

retrieving images from a group of images using the set of random numbers, each retrieved image being associated with an item represented in that retrieved image; and

placing the retrieved images in the markup language document.

14. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 13 having further executable instructions comprising:

validating the retrieved images against validation criteria; and

retrieving a replacement image from the group of images if a retrieved image fails the validation.

15. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 13 having further executable instructions comprising:

determining a location in the document for each of the retrieved images from an instruction embedded in the document.

16.-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory coupled to the processing unit through a system bus;

a computer-readable medium coupled to the processing unit through the system bus, and an instruction embedded in a markup language document in the memory to cause the processing unit to execute a utility program from the computer-readable medium, wherein the utility program causes the processing unit to determine a number of images to display in the markup language document, select the number of images using a set of random numbers, a number of the set of random numbers being equal to the determined number of images, and place the selected images in the markup language document, each selected image being associated with an item represented in that selected image.

20. (Original) The computer system of claim 19, wherein the utility program causes the processing unit to place the selected images in a location defined in the instruction.

21. (Original) The computer system of claim 19, wherein the instruction specifies the number of images to display.

22. (Original) The computer system of claim 19, wherein the computer-readable medium further comprises an administration program that causes the processing unit to create a group of images from which to select the number of images.

23. (Original) The computer system of claim 19, wherein the computer system is a web server and the markup language document is a web page.

24. (Original) The computer system of claim 23, wherein the web page contains images of items being auctioned on a web site hosted by the web server.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A system for selecting images for a markup language document, the system comprising:

means for determining a number of images to display in the markup language document;

means for obtaining a set of random numbers, the set of random numbers containing a plurality of random numbers, a number of the plurality of random numbers being equal to the determined number of images;

means for retrieving images from a group of images using the set of random numbers, each retrieved image being associated with an item represented in that retrieved image; and

means for placing retrieved images in the markup language document.

27. (Previously Presented) A method for selecting images for a markup language document, the method comprising:

determining a number of images to display in the markup language document;

obtaining a set of random numbers, the set of random numbers containing a plurality of random numbers, a number of the plurality of random numbers being equal to the determined number of images;

retrieving images from a group of images using the set of random numbers, each retrieved image being associated with an item represented in that retrieved image; and

placing the retrieved images in the markup language document.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 further comprising:

validating the retrieved images against validation criteria; and

retrieving a replacement image from the group of images if a retrieved image fails the validation.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 further comprising:

determining a location in the document for each of the retrieved images from an instruction embedded in the document.